



Golf team wins conference championship

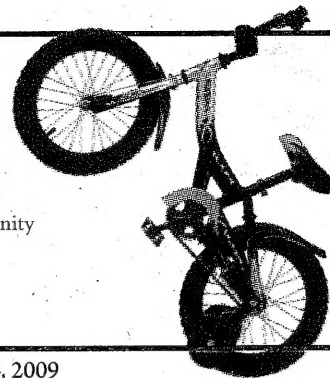
Women take first in Kansas City, Mo., for UNO's second MIAA championship
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Alberts: 'I want UNO athletics to be Omaha's team'

Former Husker visited campus as finalist for athletic director post this week

SCOTT STEWART
NEWS EDITOR

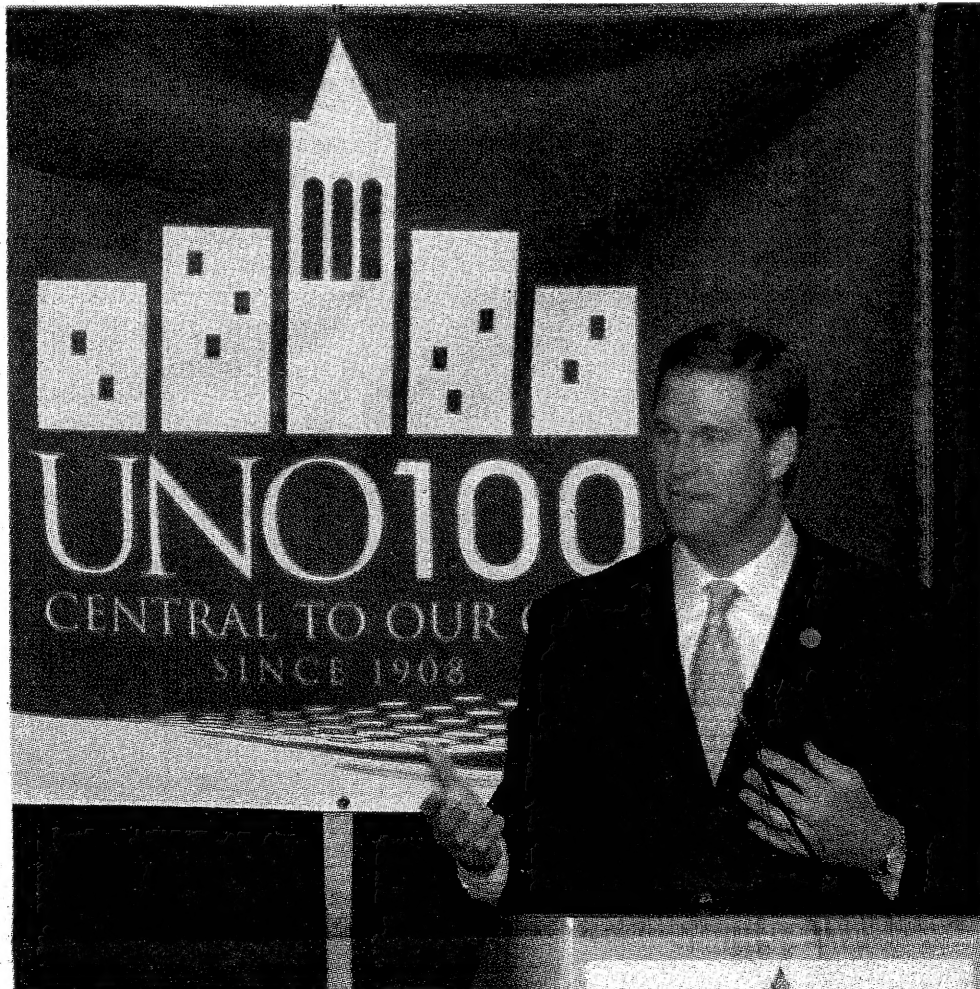
Former Husker linebacker Trev Alberts visited campus earlier this week as part of a final interview for the open athletic director position.

Hiring is expected early next week, with Chancellor John Christensen previously saying he wanted the position filled by the end of the semester.

The expected favorite for the position, Alberts is one of four finalists for the job. The other three candidates are Nolan Beyer, athletic director for Millard South High School in Omaha; Bill Danenhauer, athletic director and head football coach at Dana College in Blair, Neb.; and Mike Marcil, commissioner of the Sunshine State Conference in Orlando, Fla.

While on campus this week, Alberts met with Christensen and his cabinet, university supporters, head coaches, student athletes, staff, booster club presidents and Athletic Department officials – including a two-hour meeting with Associate Athletic Director Michele Roberts.

Alberts also held a public forum and press conference on Tuesday, which members of the campus community were invited to attend Monday when word came of Alberts' visit. About 50 people, including several members of the public, attended



Trev Alberts responds to questions during an open forum on Tuesday in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom. (VALERIE LOSEKE/THE GATEWAY)

the forum in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom.

"I want to tell you how excited I am about this potential opportunity," Alberts said in his opening remarks. "I've had a chance to learn a little bit more about UNO and the Mavs and the unique culture and tradition, and would be so honored if I was chosen to lead this athletic department."

Return to collegiate athletics

Alberts' experiences as a student-athlete at UNL gave him a desire to get back involved in intercollegiate athletics, he said. For a number of years, he has explored opportunities at other institutions.

"The more I've read about UNO, the more I've looked at their situation, the more I talked to the chancellor, the more energized I became about the potential there," Alberts said.

"I think this community has a long tradition of supporting, in a positive way, meaningful things, and I certainly believe that UNO athletics are meaningful. And so that's why I'm here: I love student-athletes, I loved my experience as a student-athlete and I would like to make a meaningful contribution to current and future student-athletes."

Alberts took several questions from the audience, ranging from what he would do if

SEE **ALBERTS:** PAGE 3

New wave in battling waste in campus food courts hits Lincoln dining halls

CAITRIN SHIRAZI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Many college campus dining halls and cafeterias across the nation have eliminated the use of plastic trays in an effort to reduce the ease of overeating and food waste by members of the college community.

UNL Housing Director Doug Zatechka has taken note of the amount of food wasted at university residence halls and has pushed for the removal of food trays from all five cafeterias in Lincoln.

Zatechka said he believes students will waste less food if they are only allowed to take as much food as they can carry on a plate without having to make multiple trips.

The University of Minnesota, Creighton University and the University of Kansas have also adopted the "trayless dining" method. Other colleges such as Nebraska Wesleyan University and the University of Nebraska at Kearney are also contemplating the removal of food trays.

Students think they are hungrier than they really are and load up on many different entrees, sides, desserts and snacks when they get to the cafeteria, Zatechka said. However, they end up only eating a small portion of the food they take, creating the high amounts of food waste.

The hope for trayless dining is that students will waste less food if they have to make choices and limit themselves to take only what they can carry.

In a trial run conducted in dining halls at UNL on March 4, volunteer observers found that, in comparison to a day in February when trays were used, beverage waste dropped about 35 percent and food waste dropped about 27 percent per person.

Campuses that removed the availability of plastic food trays saved between \$57,000 and \$79,000 a year on food, dishwashing and other associated expenses, according to research provided by the food service company Aramark.

At the end of last month, UNL converted to the trayless dining system. The decision to remove trays in all of the five campus cafeterias was made after the university's student Residence Hall Association voted 30-6 to support a resolution for transition.

In addition to the significant decrease in the amounts of food and beverages wasted, other benefits of going trayless include a reduction in the amounts of energy and water consumed in preparation and cleaning processes and chemicals needed to clean and dry trays after use.

SEE **TRAYLESS:** PAGE 2



COURTESY

Omaha students prepare for citywide spring cleaning in youth service event



A detail from a mural from last year's Global Youth Day of Service. (BILL WENDL/THE GATEWAY)

CAITRIN SHIRAZI
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Students from UNO and several high schools around the metro will participate in a citywide spring cleaning project in celebration of Global Youth Service Day 2009.

Global Youth Service Day is recognized by millions of people to improve neighborhoods and parks in communities around the world.

Omaha volunteers will clean and landscape the grounds at Western Hills Magnet School, 6523 Western Ave.; Beveridge Middle School, 1616 S. 120th St.; and Omaha Hearing School, 1110 N. 60th St. Volunteers will also clean up Fontenelle, Elmwood and Benson parks.

Youth Service America founded Global Youth Service Day in 2000 after reworking a pilot program that had proved to be successful in 1988. The annual event focuses on the hard work

youths all over the world undertake to better their communities through volunteering.

Global Youth Service Day is celebrated in more than 100 countries and in every region of the world. This event is held over a weekend in April every year.

"Global Youth Service Day is a great opportunity for Omaha youth to promote the importance of community service while bettering the city of Omaha," said Kathe Oleson Lyons, assistant director of UNO's Service Learning Academy. "This event is just another way that UNO is demonstrating its centennial theme, being central to the city."

Those looking to participate in Global Youth Service Day can sign up at Western Hills Magnet School this Saturday at 8 a.m. For more information, call Angela Dobmeier at 203-9410 or Megan Schmitz at 984-2542.

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Faculty members meet to discuss use, fate of newspapers

RYAN WILCH
CONTRIBUTOR

At an event publicized as a discussion of the current state of print journalism, a small group of UNO instructors and a couple members of the media gathered at the Dundee Dell to discuss the use of newspapers in the classroom.

On April 16, about eight UNO instructors met at the Dell, located at 50th Street and Underwood Avenue, to discuss how the Newspapers in Curricula program could pique students' interest in reading newspapers.

The Newspapers in Curricula program started at UNO in the fall 2007 with the goal of having instructors incorporate free issues of The New York Times, Omaha World-Herald and USA Today – provided to students by USA Today's Newspaper Readership Program – into their classes.

"The newspaper is alive and kicking in my Criminal Justice 101 class," said Dennis Hoffman, a professor of criminal justice. "We read the

newspaper every day, and we go around the room reading like you used to in first and second grade. One student reads a paragraph; the next student reads a paragraph."

Maria Anderson Knudtson, a lecturer of English at UNO and project coordinator for Newspapers in Curricula, organized Thursday's event. She said she feels there are multiple benefits for requiring students to read the newspaper every day.

"First of all, it's a free resource," Knudtson said. "If you could work that into your classroom, perhaps students wouldn't have to buy textbooks, or they could buy cheaper textbooks or smaller textbooks."

A second reason is that students who read newspapers are aware of current events, whereas students who don't read the news often are not aware of what's going on in the world, Knudtson said.

"It helps break up the monotony of classroom," Knudtson said. "I was discussing this with my students today. It helps keep class from being so

boring or as they said to me, 'It might help some teachers from being so boring.'"

Not all of the discussions focused on how professors use the Newspapers in Curricula program, though. Some of those in attendance expressed concern over the quality of current print journalism.

"I find ways to support the print media because I have seen so much consolidation in the twin cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul and how much dumbing down of the print media each time you lost diversity," said Rachel Roiblat, an assistant professor in the School of Social Work.

Still in the end, most of those in attendance were not focusing on a serious discussion on whether or not print journalism is dead, but on how they could keep it from dying.

"Ultimately, I think the bottom line is does anybody care if print journalism goes away and that is a huge, huge issue," Knudtson said. "Does the UNO faculty care if print goes away? I think we should."

FROM TRAYLESS: PAGE 1

Students at UNO have mixed feelings when it comes to the proposal, though.

"I think it's a good idea," senior Jonathan Cumbee said. "Any little bit helps, and I'd like to see UNO implement more eco-friendly changes like that."

While some students liked the idea of trayless dining, others were somewhat skeptical.

"I think it could be a great idea, but it's going to be annoying for the janitorial staff to clean up all of the spills and messes from people dropping their food when trying to balance all of it in one hand," junior Brad Moore said.

Moore stressed a significant concern: the way the checkout registers are set up at the gateway between the food court and dining areas in the Milo Bail Student Center.

"What about the counters at the registers? They're just three bars set up for trays," Moore said. "Won't they have to be replaced? It'd make paying for your food a juggling act and cause even more spills."

Another alternative, Moore suggested, is using smaller trays. Making trays smaller would still cut back the amount of food students could take in one trip to the food court while reducing the chance of spills.

Zatechka has addressed this issue at UNL by observing the conversion to a trayless method of dining would require basic changes to how cafeterias operate. For example, dish return systems will need to be retrofitted to accommodate plates instead of trays and dining service staff will be reassigned to help keep tables clean.

Diners would also have to make adjustments for this transition to work smoothly. Some diners may find they need to make multiple trips to carry all of the desired food or beverages to their table.

When asked if UNO would be going "trayless," Mike Milone, manager of Food Services, gave a definite no.

The other campuses that have gotten rid of trays have buffet-style dining where students could load up trays with multiple food items – much of which get discarded as waste – for one flat price, Milone said.

"We're a food court operation," Milone said. "The food a student puts on his tray, he is going to pay for. It's not an all-you-can-eat situation."

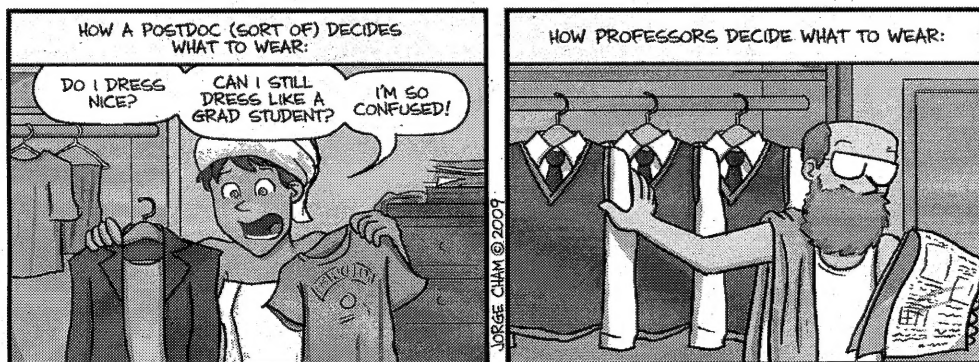
Gateway photographers sweep Neb. Press Association awards

KEARNEY, Neb. – The staff of The Gateway brought home 12 awards from the Nebraska Press Association's 2009 collegiate newspaper contest last week, including sweeping the best photography categories.

The contest was conducted between The Gateway, Creighton University's The Creightonian and UNK's The Antelope. Awards were given out at the NPA's annual convention in Kearney.

The Gateway staff came in second in best editorial page design. Individual award winners were:

- Andrea Barbe: third place, best column; first place, best feature photo;
- Michelle Bishop: first place, best sports photo;
- Valerie Loseke: second place, best news photo;
- Zach Maharaj: second and third places, best ad design; first place, best house ad.
- Judy Rydberg: third place, best feature story;
- Jason Sibson: first place, best news photo;
- Scott Stewart: first place, best column; and
- Bill Wendt: second place, best feature photo.



FOR THE RECORD

In the April 21 news story "Finalists named in athletic director search" and associated breaking news online updates, Trev Alberts was incorrectly identified as having played lineman while attending UNL. He actually played linebacker for the Huskers. The Gateway apologizes for this mistake.

CRIME LOG

COMPILED BY
SCOTT STEWART
NEWS EDITOR

Wednesday, April 15

11:56 p.m. Campus Security was dispatched to Scott Village regarding a medical emergency. Further investigation disclosed an alcohol violation. One student was referred for disciplinary action.

10:30 a.m. A staff member reported the theft of university property from an undetermined location. The incident occurred between 3 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 14, and 3 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Thursday, April 16

12:45 a.m. While on patrol, Campus Security witnessed suspicious activity in Lot G. Further investigation disclosed an alcohol violation. One student was cited by Omaha police for minor in possession and referred for disciplinary action.

Friday, April 17

1:20 p.m. Campus Security was dispatched to a disturbance on the Milo Bail Student Center. A visitor, who was authorized to speak on the plaza, reported threatening and harassing activity coming from a bystander.

Saturday, April 18

11:15 p.m. Campus Security and Omaha police responded to a complaint of harassment at Maverick Village. Both were contacted by the complainant. The suspects were identified and advised not to have further contact. The suspected students were referred for disciplinary action.

Monday, April 20

9:51 p.m. Campus Security responded to a call for assistance from a Scott Village residence assistant regarding a controlled substance. Investigation disclosed no controlled substance was present.

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FROM **ALBERTS:** PAGE 1

he was offered the position to how he would interpret Title IX requirements.

The second question Alberts faced was the one he acknowledged was lingering in the room: what about the perception that he is here because of his name and where he played?

"So it's the second question? I thought it would be the first. I think that's a great question and extremely fair," Alberts said. "Actually, I hope that one of the reasons that I am here is my name, and I don't mean what you might think. I've worked extremely hard to have integrity, to do things the right way, to have a reputation that engenders confidence and credibility and that's important to me."

Alberts said he understands he is lacking a background in administration, but he has experience in leadership and establishing trust with players, coaches and athletic administrators as a broadcaster. He would also work to develop those skills if offered the job.

'There is no grand plan'

The next question Alberts faced was speculation that he was trying to leapfrog to UNL's athletic department, with the hope of eventually taking over UNL Athletic Director Tom Osborne's position.

"There is no grand plan. I have not discussed this with Coach Osborne," Alberts said. "If you know Coach Osborne at all, that would not be a discussion that he would even participate in. Quite frankly, I think that UNL has the best athletic director they could possibly find, and I hope that Coach Osborne stays there for a long, long time."

Alberts' decision to apply for the UNO post came from a desire to return to Nebraska.

"My intentions are pure," Alberts said. "I want to be here, and I want to be part of this great institution."

Returning to Nebraska, however, was a large factor of Alberts' decision to apply for the job, he said. He also considered that the Mavericks were part of the University of Nebraska system.

"I love these people," Alberts said. "I miss their passion, and I miss their values."

Fate of Coach Kemp

One of the decisions facing the next athletic director right away is the fate of hockey head coach Mike Kemp.

At the start of last season, Christensen told Omaha World-Herald columnist Tom Shatel that he expected the Mavs to consistently finish in the top four in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association.

After having the best start in program history, going 9-2-1 overall and 5-2-1 with a shootout win in conference play, the Mavericks finished eighth overall in the CCHA, ending the regular season on a school-record 14-game winless streak.

When asked about Kemp's fate, Christensen said the call would be made by the next athletic director and was one of the reasons the search was conducted so quickly.

"I really believe strongly that your athletic director needs to be making decisions at the coaching level," Christensen said. "I don't think it would be appropriate for the chancellor doing that — not only in athletics, but I don't want to be hiring department chairs or deans, either."

In evaluating Kemp, Alberts said there would be a process that would include input from athletics officials and community members knowledgeable about Maverick athletics. A rapid assessment of the team's coaching effectiveness, however, would not be possible.

"If you're asking me if I was named the athletic director that I would be able in two weeks to give you a full assessment of Coach Kemp and his staff, that's not going

to happen," Alberts said. "That would never happen."

Communicating standards of excellence to both teams and fans is important, Alberts said.

"The worst thing that could happen to UNO hockey is if people accepted the fact that we're going to be in the bottom half of the conference," Alberts said. "I would never, ever, ever be in favor of lowering standards or expectations."

On whether Christensen's remarks were appropriate, Alberts declined to make an assessment. However, the remarks show that Christensen is passionate about athletics, which Alberts said was critical to him applying for the position.

"I would never participate in a conversation about whether or not somebody's comments were appropriate," Alberts said. "Certainly the chancellor is the chancellor, and he has the full responsibility and opportunity to speak his opinion, and I certainly wouldn't be comfortable in evaluating if he should make those comments at that time."

Vision of Athletic Department

Alberts and Christensen share a vision of UNO athletics as the premiere program in Division II with a highly competitive Division I hockey team.

"My vision for athletics is to be the premiere D-II program in the country, to be the model so that when people talk about what D-II athletics can be, UNO is the name that is referred to, while at the same time having a highly consistent and highly competitive hockey program," Christensen said.

The key to achieving this vision, Alberts said, is building meaningful relationships and becoming more involved in the community.

"I want UNO athletics to be Omaha's team," Alberts said. "That's what important to me. I want the people of Omaha to be able to say, 'This is our team,' and rally behind this team. That's what's important, and that's what the student-athletes love. I can only promise you, being a former student-athlete, when you feel that energy, when you feel that support of the community — that's when being a student-athlete is really enjoyable."

As athletic director, Alberts would be responsible for developing and communicating a vision for the department, according to the job description. He would also be responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive fundraising and marketing plan for athletics.

"I believe that if you look at Omaha, all the various projects that place here, it's a community that historically has supported very strongly things that make sense," Alberts said. "I think there are people who are waiting to come back to Maverick athletics."

Former Husker legend

Alberts is one of the most-decorated defensive players in Husker history, as Nebraska's first Butkus Award winner and Football News National Defensive Player of the Year in 1993. A fifth pick in the NFL draft, Alberts played in 29 games during three seasons with the Indianapolis Colts until he retired because of injuries.

As senior co-captain at Nebraska, Alberts led the Huskers to an undefeated regular season and an Orange Bowl appearance where he earned defensive most valuable player honors. His jersey, No. 34, was retired at the 1994 Spring Game.

Alberts has provided commentary for CNN/Sports Illustrated, ESPN and CBS College Sports, including recently color commentary for Southeastern Conference games on CBS. After interviewing with Christensen Wednesday afternoon, Alberts flew out to New York City to tape an analysis show for CBS College Sports.

Metro, UNO service-learning helps put bikes in hands of local children

ERIC BRUNT
CONTRIBUTOR

The Omaha Metro Bike Blast's Paint-a-Bike, Earn-a-Bike program is in full swing for children in Omaha.

Supported by service-learning classes from both UNO and Metropolitan Community College, the program gives children the opportunity to paint and design the bicycle of their choice while learning and creating something they can use every day.

For three weeks, about 35 children 10-years-old to 14-years-old

Painted bicycles at two locations: Bancroft Market at 10th and Bancroft streets and the First Congregational Church gym at 36th and Harney streets.

Local artists volunteered and showed the children color mixing and other design principles to create simple and unique bicycles. During the fourth week, the children had a safety course with students and bike enthusiasts from the community.

The participants in the program were selected from Girls Inc., Camp Fire USA and other local community organizations.

"I really enjoyed seeing the smiles on everyone's faces while they painted the bikes," said Emerick Huber, a volunteer for the program. "It was great to laugh with them and give them a vessel for freedom."

Besides painting the bikes that were donated by Boys Town and repaired by volunteers, the children's bikes will be paraded during the city's Cinco de Mayo festival May 2 on 24th Street. The children will then be allowed to keep them.

The goals of the Metro Area Bike Blast are to encourage physical activity in the community, to build social capital, to promote public art and to make the community greener by beautifying it with bicycles.

Another other component in the program is creating artistic bike racks. The bike racks are designed, painted and created by local artists in the community. Individuals and



businesses alike can sponsor the racks to be placed downtown, as well as choose images or designs to emulate for their rack.

Bicycle racks are needed for the growing number of people who commute by bicycle downtown. The racks serve multiple purposes by enhancing the culture and downtown vibe while creating functional art to secure bicycles.

The cost to sponsor a rack is \$600, which includes installation.

On May 1, the public will have the opportunity to sponsor one of the custom racks at the Hot Shops spring open house, located in north downtown on the third floor of 1301 Nicholas St. The event runs from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For additional information on the program, visit www.unomaha.edu/bikeblast.

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Everyone is warmly invited. There is no charge.

Meeting One - Saturday, May 2nd 10 a.m.
(Lunch at Noon)

Meeting Two - Saturday, May 2nd 7 p.m.

Meeting Three - Sunday, May 3rd 9 a.m.

Childcare provided for ages 5-12. All meetings will be at the Riverview Lodge beside the observation tower.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL 402-707-4445

Golf team wins conference championship, second for UNO

MARCUS HANSEN
CONTRIBUTOR

The Maverick golf team earned UNO's second Mid-America Intercollegiate Championship after finishing in first place at the inaugural MIAA championship at the Shoal Creek Golf Course in Kansas City, Mo., Tuesday.

"The conditions weren't ideal," Head Coach Tim Nelson said. "Monday, there was a 40 mph wind, and Tuesday morning was very cold with around a 25 mph wind, but we play very well in bad conditions."

Hole 17 at Shoal Creek has a handicap of 18, meaning it is the easiest hole on the course, but Monday it was a perfect example of the tough playing conditions.

"That hole is a par 3, downhill and 140 yards long, but Monday it was straight into a 40 mph wind," Nelson said. "So we all talked about how we were going to play it, and it proved to be the toughest hole that day."

The Mavs won the two-day championship by 27 strokes with a final

score of 651. Truman State finished second with 678, while Missouri Western was third at 758 and Northwest Missouri State finished fourth at 778.

Junior Erin Ommen won the individual tournament with a score of 153 and 9 over par. The Mavs earned the top four spots individually, as well.

Sophomore Dani Suponchick finished second overall with a score of 164 after shooting an 81 during second round play. Junior Abbey Weddle and freshman Rebecca Pollock tied for third at 167. Weddle cut 9 strokes off her day one score by shooting a 79 on Tuesday, the second best round of the day. Sophomore Amy Powell finished 12th overall with 182.

Ommen, Suponchick, Weddle and Pollock were also named to the All-Tournament team.

The Mavs, ranked fifth in the Division II West Region, will host the regional tournament at the Ironwood Golf and Country Club in Omaha May 4-6. The Mavs are looking to be one of the top three finishers to qualify for the national



The women's golf team celebrates its conference championship, becoming the second team in UNO history to have attained a championship in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. (COURTESY MATT NEWBERRY)

tournament held May 13-16 in Findlay, Ohio.

Nelson, the MIAA women's coach of the year, said that the 19th-ranked Mavs are not the favorites in the regional.

"The favorites are St. Edwards, 15th, CSU Monterey Bay, ninth, and Tarleton, eighth," Nelson said.

The indoor track and field team claimed UNO's first MIAA title in March.

Mavericks split with Gorillas, sweep Bulldogs

MICHELLE BISHOP
SPORTS & PHOTO EDITOR

The 19th-ranked Maverick softball team scored nine runs off 11 hits to take the opening game of Tuesday's doubleheader with Pittsburg State 9-0. But UNO failed to plate a run in game two, falling 5-0 in Pittsburg, Kan.

In game one, both teams remained scoreless for the first four innings until the Mavs scored four runs in the fifth and five in the sixth inning to end the game with the run rule.

Junior Julia Krejci opened the top of the fifth inning with a double, the first of four UNO hits in the inning. Freshman Molly Feichtinger and sophomore Lindsey Slocum followed with RBI singles. Sophomore Alli Hukill drove in two with a double to center to give UNO a 4-0 lead.

In the sixth inning, Feichtinger doubled in two runs and junior Jenna Dell knocked a three-run home run to left field to cap the rout.

Junior Melissa Negrete (14-5) pitched a complete game shutout for the Mavs, allowing four hits and striking out three with a walk. Pitt State (28-19, 8-6 Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association) never advanced a runner past second base.

In the second game, UNO committed three errors and Pitt State scored five runs in the fifth inning, which proved to be enough for the two-hit shut out.

UNO had runners in scoring position in the third and seventh innings but finished empty handed. Junior Kristi Meneely and

freshman Katelyn Hinton both reached on walks in the third inning but were left on base. In the seventh inning, Hukill and junior Kristin Wellwood strung together back-to-back singles but were also left stranded. Hukill's hit with one out in the seventh broke up a no-hitter by Pitt State pitcher Melissa Slayden.

Slocum (12-2) picked up the loss after allowing four runs on seven hits over four innings with five strikeouts.

On Sunday, the Mavs swept Truman State in their home finale of the regular season, winning 5-3 in game one and 9-1 in five innings in game two. Senior Amanda Bader was honored between games as part of the senior day ceremonies.

In game one, the Mavs struck first, scoring a run in the first inning to take a 1-0 lead. UNO left the bases loaded as the Bulldogs escaped the inning with a strikeout.

The Mavs built a 3-0 lead, adding a run in both the fourth and fifth innings. Truman (11-28, 3-13 MIAA) responded with three runs in the top of the sixth to tie the game.

In the bottom of the sixth, UNO broke the tie on a Bulldog fielding error. Sophomore Ashley Lynch walked and later scored on a single up the middle by Feichtinger. On the play, the throw came home to get Lynch and Feichtinger took second. The catcher fired to second, but the wild throw allowed Feichtinger to score from second to give UNO a 5-3 lead.

Sophomore Beth Haley gave up two singles in the top of the seventh, but a double play and a groundout ended the game.

Negrete tossed a shut out through the first five innings before giving up three runs in the sixth. Haley (10-4) pitched the final one and one-third inning to earn the win.

In game two, the Mavs pounded out five runs in the fifth to win by the run rule.

UNO opened the fifth



UNO's Jenna Dell tags out Truman State's Erica LaCombe at third base during the fifth inning of game two on Sunday. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

with three straight singles, leading up to Feichtinger's RBI single that gave the Mavs an eight-run lead to end the game.

The Mavs opened the scoring with three two-out runs in the first inning. Slocum drove in two runs with a double and then Hukill knocked her in with a single.

"I helped myself out to get some runs in the first inning," Slocum said. "It made me more comfortable pitching."

Slocum, who also starts in center field when not in the circle, finished 3-for-3 with three RBIs and two runs scored, including two doubles.

"For her to come in from being in the outfield and throw like that is unbelievable," Wellwood said. "I can't believe she can do that and just not be a strict pitcher, she's doing really well."

Slocum tossed a complete-game victory, striking out six and allowing five hits and a walk.

Bader finished 2-for-2 with an RBI and two runs.

UNO (36-11, 10-4 MIAA) continues conference play with four games on the road this weekend, starting with a doubleheader at Southwest Baptist at 2 p.m. Friday and ending Saturday in a 1 p.m. doubleheader with Central Missouri.



Truman State's Dani Mayer slides around the tag of UNO's Ashley Lynch during the third inning of game two on Sunday. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)



UNO's Lindsey Slocum watches as Truman State's Alex Weber strikes out in the fifth inning of game two on Sunday. Catching is Kristi Meneely. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

UNO baseball's undefeated home streak falls, along with relief pitchers

MARCUS HANSEN
CONTRIBUTOR

The UNO baseball team had been undefeated all season long when playing at the Ballpark at Boys Town, until Fort Hayes State arrived on Sunday.

The 28th-ranked Mavs were swept in the opening doubleheader and were out scored 21-10 in both games combined, breaking their 10-0 record at home.

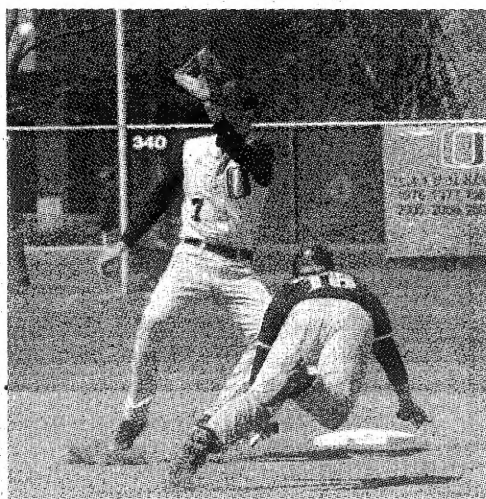
UNO's ace pitcher, senior Chris Kessinger, took the loss in game one, dropping his record to 5-4. Kessinger gave up three earned runs on seven hits in five and two-thirds innings as the Mavs fell 11-4.

Juniors Brandon Dahl and Wes Simmons came in on relief and allowed six runs in only one and one-third innings. Both pitchers came out of the game with sore elbows.

"[Simmons] has had a history of elbow problems, so he has now reinjured his elbow," Head Coach Bob Herold said. "We are not sure how long he is out for. [Dahl] is out for Central Missouri, but other than the fact that they both need MRIs, we don't know much more than that, so now we have three relief pitchers on the disabled list."

The third pitcher, senior Adam Versendal, is out for the season after undergoing UCL surgery.

In game two, the Mavs fell 10-6 despite seniors Evan Porter and Matt Meyer both



Fort Hays State's Tyler Robbins steals second as UNO's Evan Porter awaits the throw on Sunday. (JODI PENN/THE GATEWAY)

three over seven innings of work. Sophomore Justin Bruns allowed the other two runs in one-third of an inning of relief.

On Monday, UNO returned the favor by sweeping the Tigers. The Mavs took the first game 6-2 after scoring two runs in each of their last three innings.

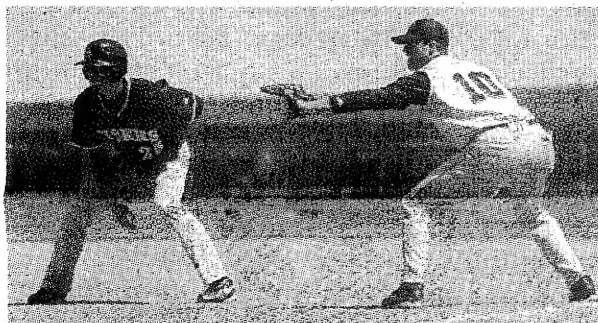
Senior Drew Schwab led the team by going 2-3 with three RBIs. Freshman Joe Holtmeyer (6-2) threw a complete seven-inning game, giving up two runs on three hits while striking out nine.

In game two, UNO's bats exploded as the Mavs won 16-6. Senior Mat Eikmeier was 4-for-5 with four RBIs, but junior Andrew Hansen led the team with a perfect 4-for-4 from the plate, adding three RBIs.

Senior Kyle Dahman, UNO's only undefeated pitcher, improved his record to 6-0 on the year. He allowed three runs on six hits over five innings, while striking out three and walking three.

Sophomore Tom Schmidt and junior Mark Johnson each worked an inning of relief.

UNO plays a doubleheader at 29th-ranked Central Missouri today at 4 p.m. The series will wrap up on Saturday with a doubleheader at 2 p.m.



UNO first baseman Matt Eikmeier holds on Fort Hays State's Chase Schippers on Sunday. (JODI PENN/THE GATEWAY)

going 3-for-4 from the plate.

Senior Ben Percival suffered his first loss of the year for UNO, falling to 9-1. He allowed eight runs, seven earned, on ten hits. Percival struck out four and walked



Chris Kessinger delivers a pitch against Fort Hays State on Sunday. (JODI PENN/THE GATEWAY)

Senior pitcher took long road to UNO

MARCUS HANSEN
CONTRIBUTOR

Senior Ben Percival is flying above all the other UNO pitchers so far this season with a team-leading 9-1 record. Before pitching at UNO, Percival played for three other universities during his collegiate career.

"He runs at his own pace, he takes the mound leisurely and he is very effective," junior pitcher Brandon Dahl said. "Ben has one speed: coast."

Percival went to high school in Clive, Iowa, compiling a 15-1 record in two years, he then signed a letter of intent to play at Northern Iowa.

"I went there for a year but I really didn't like the school," Percival said.

After his sophomore year he transferred to Indian Hills Community College.

"They recruited me out of high school so I thought it might be a good fit," Percival said. "But it turned out that the coaches were really not what I expected them to be, which is why I left."

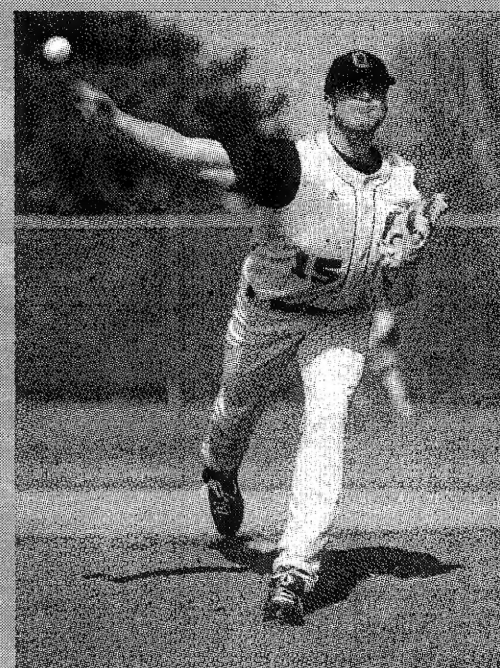
Percival spent last season at Western Illinois where he had an ERA of 5.28 after 73 innings pitched. He appeared in 25 games, second most on his team, and walked only 23 batters all season.

The 200-pound, 6-foot-4 Percival is second on the team with 59 strikeouts this spring. Percival fanned a team-high 13 batters during UNO's game against Pittsburg State on March 28.

He currently has a 3.45 ERA after 73 innings of work, with his opponents averaging .224.

"Ben is having an outstanding season," Head Coach Bob Herold said.

Percival contacted UNO over the



Ben Percival delivers a pitch on Sunday. (JODI PENN/THE GATEWAY)

summer and tried out in the fall. After Percival made the team, Herold offered him a scholarship for the spring semester in 2009, and it's paid off for the Mavs.

"This is the forth team I've been on and by far UNO has the best coaching staff and the coolest teammates I've ever been a part of," Percival said.

Ben uses a combination of a fastball, change-up, curveball and slider when he takes the mound, but the slider is his favorite 0-2 pitch.

"He throws a lot of strikes and doesn't have to overpower many batters, but he can when he needs to," Herold said. "He is a very smart pitcher."

On Sunday, Percival started game two against Fort Hays State by striking out the first batter he faced with an 0-2 slider in the dirt.



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Local coffee shop brews up hot spot for students, community

MIKE BELL
CONTRIBUTOR

With finals right around the corner and late night study sessions in preparation for exam week, many students are turning to caffeine stimulants to keep them awake. One metro shop is doing its part to keep the java flowing.

The Village Grinder, located in Countryside Village on 87th and Dodge Streets, has been a serving up coffee and other baked treats for more than 26 years.

"We bake our own goods here," said owner Pat Dudziak. "People love fresh cookies and scones hot out of the oven, and we've started making sandwiches now."

When the shop first opened, the Village Grinder only sold coffee, beans and coffee makers. However, Dudziak said she wanted to expand their sales by bringing in new styles of coffee to compete with other shops.

"I have no doubt it's because we're locally owned that people enjoy coming here," Dudziak said. "We try to keep a friendly environment and greet people by name, ask them how their families are doing. We try to know our customers."

Because they are not corporately owned, Dudziak attributes the Village Grinder's longevity to their variety of specialty coffees. Every summer, Dudziak said she travels to Europe to taste new and different coffees in countries such as Germany, France and Italy. For coffee that pleases her palette, she purchases a good amount and brings it back to Omaha for her customers to buy.

During this economic downturn, the Village Grinder is trying to focus on quality and effectiveness when competing with larger coffee companies like Starbucks, especially with one of the coffee giants located just down the strip mall. Dudziak said she



Owner Pat Dudziak (left) and Sarah Vollmer man the counter at The Village Grinder in Countryside Village. (MIKE BELL/THE GATEWAY)

thinks people are trying to save money by not splurging on big purchases, but that most have a couple of bucks to spare for a smooth cup of java.

Senior Sarah Vollmer has been working at the Village Grinder for three years and loves the shop's atmosphere.

"It's like a little family here," Vollmer said.

This local coffee shop hopes to keep Omaha buzzed with premium coffee at a decent price and with a friendly place to congregate.

"A lot of people gravitate here every day just to meet each other," Vollmer said. "There are lots of regulars that I've gotten to know by name. It really makes for a sense of community."



'12 Angry Men' film, play to come to Omaha in celebration of local actor

RYAN WILCH
CONTRIBUTOR

One classic script is being paid tribute in Omaha in two locations - the Omaha Community Playhouse and Film Streams - in a collaborative presentation of "12 Angry Men" starring Henry Fonda, one of Nebraska's greatest actors.

On May 1, the Omaha Community Playhouse will begin a month-long run of the play while Film Streams will show the 1957 film adaptation of the screenplay for two weeks as part of mini-retrospect of Fonda's movie career.

"Twelve Angry Men" tells the story of 12 jurors unable to reach a unanimous decision about a murder trial. The film version was nominated for four Academy Awards including Best Picture and is highly revered as one of the American Film Institute's Top 10 movies of all time.

"It's a classic play, ... a classic story with classic characters that come together in a courtroom style drama," Omaha Community Playhouse Director Susan Clement-Toberer said. "The story has held up on its own over the years. It's an American drama where personalities are drawn in super clean lines. It's a pretty amazing social portrait of clashing social attitudes in a jury room. It's a courtroom drama, very different than a drama. It's high stakes. It clicks together like a jigsaw puzzle. It moves. It has no intermission."

Although Reginald Rose wrote the original movie script in 1954, "12 Angry Men" is still important today.

"This play talks about prejudice and other subjects that are still relevant today," said Betsy Paragas, the director of marketing and public relations for the Omaha Community Playhouse.

Film Streams Communication Coordinator Casey Logan is excited that the two locations have decided

to run both the play and the film simultaneously.

"The fact that the community playhouse had '12 Angry Men' scheduled for this season, it just made really good sense to do it at that time," Logan said. "That way people have a chance to see the film version, which is a classic directed by Sidney Lumet, and then also see a staged version of it on a stage where Henry Fonda got his start."

In addition to "12 Angry Men," Logan said that the remaining Fonda films at Film Streams will be presented this spring and run through the summer.

"The rest of series will play for one week. We have done director retrospectives, and this is by no means a retrospective, we are just kind of scratching the surface of what Henry Fonda did," Logan said. "I think we have grabbed a selection of films that are his most memorable performances - some most beloved movies that he starred in. There's also a good mix of subject matter. We have dramas like '12 Angry Men' and 'The Best Man,' and then we have thrillers like 'The Wrong Man,' directed by Alfred Hitchcock. Then, you get something a little bit lighter with 'Mister Roberts,' a little bit of comedy, and then the series ends with a western, 'Once Upon a Time in the West.' Hopefully it's a good tribute."

For more information and ticket prices for "12 Angry Men" at the Omaha Community Playhouse, call the box office at 553-0800 or visit omahaplayhouse.com.

For those interested in seeing the movie version at Film Streams, call 933-0259 or visit filmstreams.org.

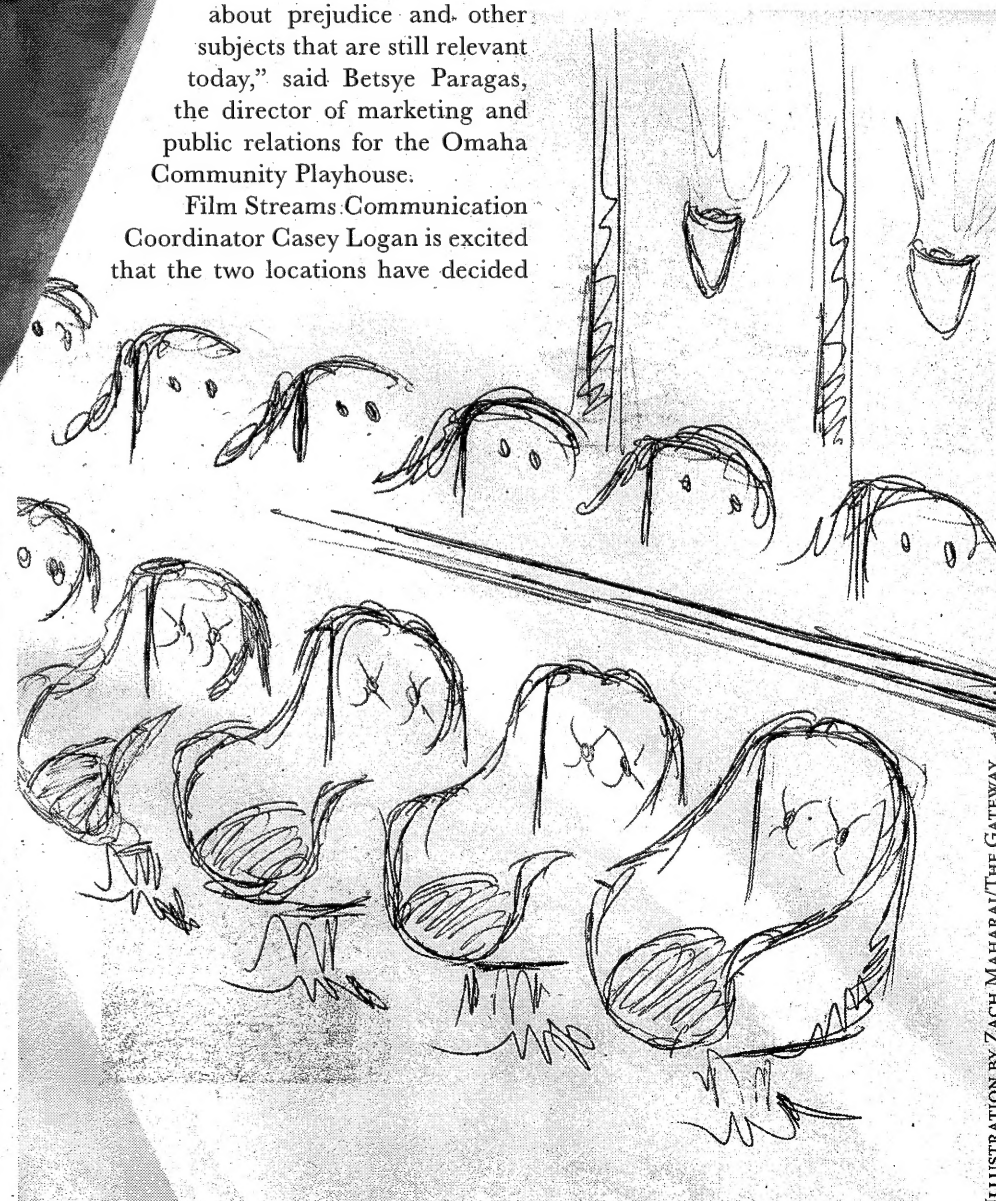


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'The Soloist' is true man-on-the-street story, with classical music

JOHN ANDERSON
Newsday

(MCT) - If Steve Lopez had written a blog about a homeless cellist living on the streets of Los Angeles, he would have had readers. And both of them would have said, "Yeah, this ought to be a movie."

Instead, the Los Angeles Times writer devoted column after column to the plight of the Juilliard-trained, schizophrenic Nathaniel Ayers in a medium that still serves, however dispiritedly, as America's public forum/village square. The result: "The Soloist," which opens Friday with Jamie Foxx as Ayers, Robert Downey Jr. as Lopez and 500 derelict Angelenos playing themselves.

The fate of newspapers is as essential to "The Soloist" as Ayers or Lopez, and so is the relationship of the media to its consumers: Among the many choices the Internet has provided is the choice of ignoring the news. Newspapers, however, "are in your house, on your kitchen table, it's in your face," said Lopez, whose 2006 columns captivated a city. "And I think it's easier to imagine this guy's life when you're holding the paper in your hands. It's a story that you should get dirty reading. The ink should come off on your hands."

There's no movie equivalent of newsprint, but there is a tangibly grimy quality to "The Soloist." Director Joe Wright ("Pride and Prejudice," "Atonement") filmed largely in downtown Los Angeles and captured the utter chaos of that blighted piece of Paradise known as Skid Row.

"You get some people who say, 'Oh, it's not like that,'" Wright said, "but those are the people who've never been there."

With apologies to all the professional actors in L.A., Wright added that his experience with the shelter denizens was great.

"They were without

question the best group of extras and supporting actors I've ever worked with. They were on time, they were on their marks, they were engaged every second of the day. The only time anything got out of control was because of hysterical laughter. There was a lot of laughter. A lot of energy."

"The Soloist," originally set for release last fall, was pushed back to February, then April, indicating to some a lack of faith in the movie by its studio, and foreshadowing some inevitable umbrage among the cast.

"For those who were imagining this film was a path to greener pastures and a certain season," Downey said, referring not-so-obliquely to Oscar time. "I would say the movie does what the movie wants to do. I think the movie's a bigger thing than one decision."

"Plus, given all I had on my plate," Downey said, referring to "Iron Man" and "Tropic Thunder," "I wouldn't have been able to work it with all the zeal of the highly professional whore that I am."

But it's understandable that a studio, or two (DreamWorks/Universal), would want to push "The Soloist" to another fiscal quarter: The story of one man living on the street, and another whose industry is falling apart, might be a little too close for comfort given our perilous economic times. As a professional observer of L.A., Lopez sees Ayers as a metaphor for the precariousness of modern life, reflected



Actors Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey Jr. star in the musical drama, "The Soloist," out in theaters today. (COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA)

in the way the Los Angeles Times is divesting itself of its human beings (even as Lopez is trying to rescue one).

But the movie's version of Lopez doesn't quite see himself as the "soloist" of the title, which he is. That something Wright saw all along: That we're all soloists, unless we connect with other people.

"Joe said he realized while we were in rehearsals," Downey said, "that the film wasn't as much about an unlikely friendship or mental illness as it was about having faith in each other."

The nervous-making, art-meets-life

aspects of "The Soloist" weren't limited to the screen. "The first day on set," said Catherine Keener, who plays Lopez's ex-wife. "We had this circle meeting, where the actors were upfront and everybody else was all around, all the denizens, and Downey, of course, sat in the middle. When they got to him, he says, 'I'm Robert Downey, cell block number ...'

and they all just melted."

In addition to his newspaper columns being the source of the movie, and his paper being dismantled onscreen, Lopez had another connection to the production he probably would have rather forgotten: In 2002, he ran a series of blistering columns castigating media mogul David Geffen for illegally barring access to public beaches via his property in Malibu. Geffen, of course, is the G in DreamWorks SKG. "I kept thinking that Geffen must have been asleep through this whole thing," Lopez said.

Meanwhile, his time with Ayers on Skid Row continues to provide column fodder. "I met these prostitutes who were working out of porta-potties," he said. "One of them took me inside and showed me that she was living in the porta-potty. I recently got an e-mail from a cop who knew her - 'She looks fantastic, she's getting married, she found the Lord and she wants to talk to you.' So I went down to see her in Compton. And she is a new woman - although 'Pretty Woman' doesn't end up in a Beverly Hills hotel. She ends up in Compton."

At which point, Lopez excused himself. "I have to go write that column, about her pulling her life together."



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

SIDEBAR

Other movies of note

JOHN ANDERSON
Newsday

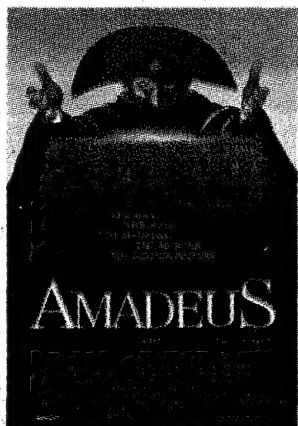


COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

"The Phantom of the Opera" - (1925, '43, '62) - A mad composer, disfigured and homicidal, haunts the Paris Opera House in general - and one young opera singer in particular.

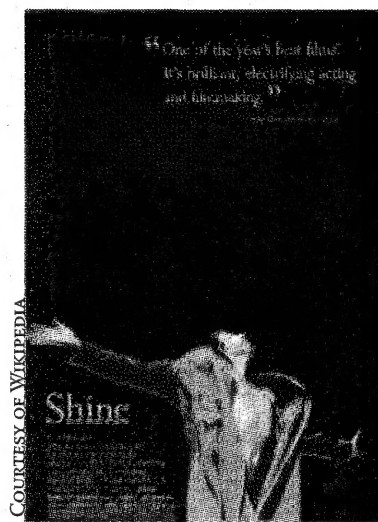
"Fitzcarraldo" (1982) - Director Werner Herzog's own sanity was called into question after he had a ship dragged over a mountain while telling the tale of an obsessive character who sets out to build an opera house in the Peruvian jungle.

"Amadeus" (1984) - Tom Hulce's Mozart was more a hysterical eccentric than a bona fide madman, but his rival, Antonio Salieri (F. Murray Abraham), is driven over the edge by Wolfgang's genius, and the fact that it isn't his.



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

"Shine" (1996) - Geoffrey Rush won an Academy Award for playing David Helfgott, the tortured Australian pianist who was institutionalized after a mental breakdown, and later played at the Oscars.



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

"Hilary and Jackie" (1998) - Renowned cellist / Elgar interpreter Jacqueline du Pre, portrayed in this 1998 film by Emily Watson, has an affair with her sister's husband - with her sister's consent - in order to get through a nervous breakdown. Unorthodox treatment to be sure, but many aspects of this du Pre story were called into question by family and fans.

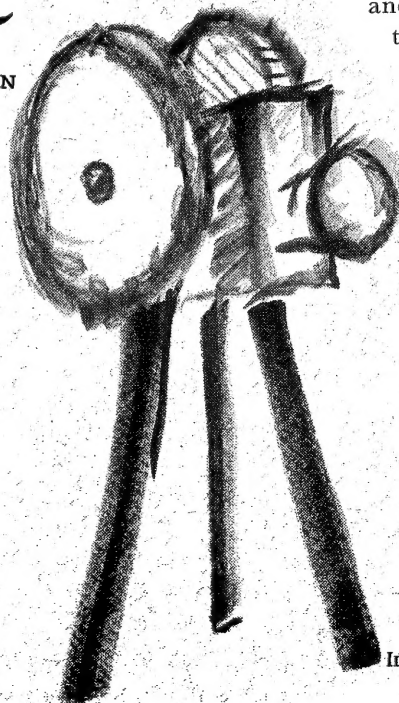


ILLUSTRATION BY ZACH MAHARAJ/THE GATEWAY

Mav-Rec

Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building Hours

Monday - Thursday: 6:30 AM - 11:00 PM

Friday: 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Saturday: 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

Sunday: 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Cedar River Canoe Trip Summer 2009



Experience the sandhills of Nebraska and travel the steep slopes, sharp ridged crests, and remnants of nearly level plains!

Dates & Times:
Saturday, May 16th-17th
(Trip leaves Friday night)

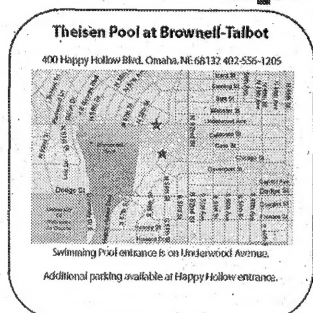
Mandatory Pre-Trip Meeting
Tuesday, May 12th
7:00pm-9:30pm

Where:
Cedar River, NE

Cost:
Early Registration
\$143 UNO Students
\$164 General Public
Late Fee: after May 8th Add \$10

Outdoor Venture Center
<http://www.unomaha.edu/~wwwocr/jbauch@unomaha.edu>
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Alternate Pool Summer 09 Option



Starting May 1st, UNO Mav Rec Members may swim at Brownell Talbot by showing their Mav Cards, while the UNO pool is under repair.

When:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
6:30am-9:00 am
11:00am-1:00pm

Where:

Brownell-Talbot School
400 N. Happy Hollow Blvd.
Omaha, Nebraska

More information about UNO Pool re-opening date will be available later in May.

Aquatics
<http://www.unomaha.edu/wwwocr/aquatics/index.php>
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Mav-Rec Fitness & Wellness Chair Massage



Get a massage by Licensed Massage Therapist
Kimberly Jackson

Where: HPER 213

Dates:
May 15th

Time:
12:00-2:00pm

Price:
\$10 for a 15-minute massage

Sign-up in HPER 100 to reserve a time. Walk-ins accepted, if there are openings.

Fitness and Wellness
<http://www.unomaha.edu/wwwocr/health/index.php>
402-554-2539

Mav-Rec Wellness Stampede Pool Hours:

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY:
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TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY:
4:00-7:00PM
MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY:
4:00-9:00PM
SATURDAYS:
1:00-5:00PM
SUNDAYS:
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joy,
My family is trying to make me talk. There is nothing to talk about.
Art

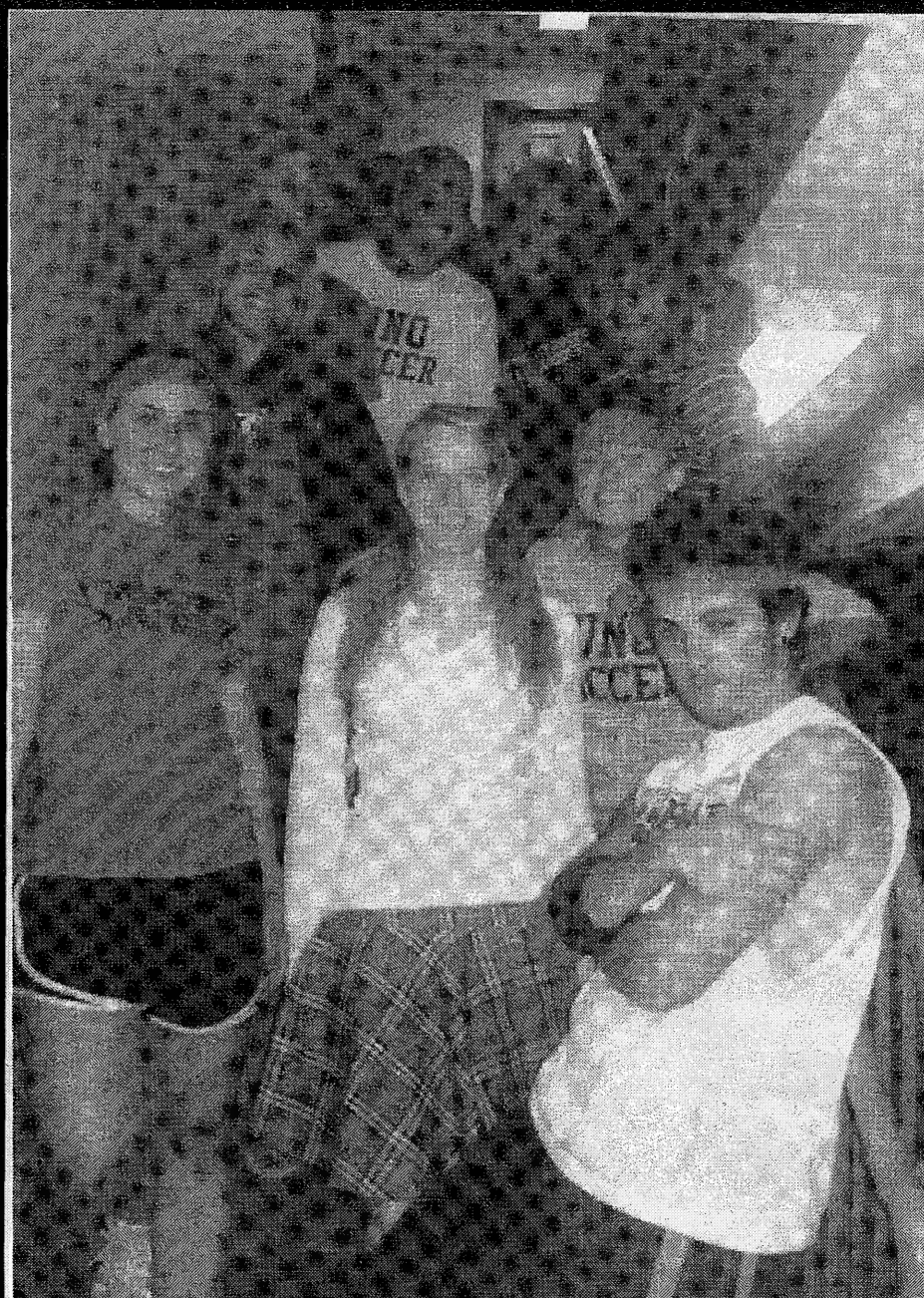


PHOTO CONTEST

Congratulations to Nathan Kirkland, winner of this issue's photo contest for favorite photo representing a day at UNO.